

Application No. 09/892,993

Amendment dated: October 5, 2006

Reply to Office Action mailed July 28, 2006

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0012]:

A method is disclosed for repairing a defect area at the gradient junction of cartilaginous tissue and bony tissue. The method includes providing a composite scaffold with a porous ceramic phase, a porous polymer phase, the polymer phase attached to the ceramic phase at an interphase region where the polymer phase is at least partially infused into the ceramic phase mechanically interlocking the ceramic and polymer phases, with the porosity of the ceramic and polymer phases communicating. A receptacle space is bored in the gradient junction at the site of the injury to receive the scaffold. The scaffold is placed and secured in the receptacle space with the ceramic phase adjacent to the bony tissue and the polymer phase adjacent to the cartilaginous tissue. The gradient junction could be that of articular cartilage, spinal disc, or meniscus.